

YEMEN

The Republic of Yemen was established on May 22, 1990 with the merger of the Yemen Arab Republic (Sanaa) and the People's Democratic Republic of Yemen (Aden).

a. SUMMARY OF CLAIMS

TYPE	DATE	SOURCE	LIMITS	NOTES
I. TERRITORIAL SEA	Apr 67	Republican Decree No. 15 (Sanaa)	12nm	Foreign warships and nuclear-powered vessels must obtain permission prior to transiting territorial sea (including Babal Mandab). (See NOTE below.)
	Feb 70	Law No. 8 (Aden)	12nm	
	Jan 78	Act No. 45 of 1977: The Territorial Sea, the Exclusive Economic Zone, Continental Shelf and Other Maritime Zones Laws of 1977 (Aden)	12nm	Foreign warships must obtain permission prior to transiting territorial sea; the nuclear-powered vessels and vessels carrying nuclear and other radio-active materials must give prior notification. (See NOTE below.)
NOTE: Prior to its merger into one nation, both Yemen (North-Sanaa) and Yemen (South-Aden) claimed that foreign warships required prior permission or notification before entering the territorial sea. There has been no indication that Yemen has changed its claims. The U.S. does not recognize these requirements as valid. Diplomatic protests were made in 1982 and 1986. Operational assertions have been made regularly from 1979 to 1990 and 1995.				
II. ARCHIPELAGIC, STRAIGHT BASELINES, & HISTORIC CLAIMS	Jan 78	Act No. 45 of 1977 (Aden)		Enabling legislation for straight baselines.
III. CONTIGUOUS ZONE	Apr 67	Republican Decree No. 15 (Sanaa)	18nm	
	Feb 70	Law No. 8 (Aden)	18nm	
	Jan 78	Act No. 45 (Aden) of 1977	24nm	Claim included jurisdiction over security. This claim is not recognized by the U.S.
IV. CONTINENTAL SHELF	Apr 67	Republican Decree No. 16 (Sanaa)	200 m	
	Feb 70	Law No. 8 (Aden)	1958 DEF	
	Jan 78	Act No. 45 of 1977 (Aden)	CM/ 200nm	Claimed exclusive rights similar to those in EEZ.
V. FISHING ZONE/EEZ	1964	Law No. 30	12nm	Fishing zone.
	Jan 78	Act No. 45 of 1977 (Aden)	200nm	EEZ
VI. ENVIRONMENTAL REGULATION	Jan 78	Act No. 45		Complete authority over environment asserted within EEZ.
	Feb 82	Regional Convention for the Conservation of the Red Sea and the Gulf of Aden Environment		Agreement between Jordan, Saudi Arabia, Sudan, Somalia, Yemen, and the Palestine Liberation Organization to protect environment of Red Sea and Gulf of Aden.

TYPE	DATE	SOURCE	LIMITS	NOTES
VIII. LOS CONVENTION	Dec 82			Signed (Aden and Sanaa). Sanaa with a declaration that warships, warplanes and nuclear-powered craft must obtain agreement prior to transiting territorial sea; and, that Yemen adheres to rules concerning rights of national sovereignty over territorial seas, including straits linking two seas.
	Jul 87			Date of Ratification.
	Dec 87			Ratified, with declarations.